

SIGNS OF BATTLE NOT FAR DISTANT

The Japanese Warships Busy
Convoys Transports.

A SUSPICION AROUSED

AMONG RUSSIANS BY THE CON-
CENTRATION OF LARGE
FORCE CHINESE TROOPS
NEAR MUKDEN.

By Associated Press.

Paris, March 4.—LeMatin's Harbin correspondent says the concentration of Chinese forces west of Mukden arouses suspicion, in spite of repeated declarations of China's neutrality. Cossacks are advancing in Korea, where the attitude of the natives to ward them is very variable. Col. Tat-sujire and five other Japanese officers arrested in Korea, have been taken to Liao Yang. People here believe Port Arthur was mined a long time ago by Japanese, who are now trying to send their few men who know the place well, to blow it up. The Russian cruisers Bayan and Diana received only slight injuries during the recent engagements with the Japanese.

THE SQUADRON INACTIVE.

By Associated Press.

Tokio, March 4.—It is evident that several vessels laden with coal, provisions and other contraband articles have recently effected the passage of the Tsushima strait and succeeded in reaching Vladivostok. Their exact number and names are unknown, but it is stated they include British, Norwegian, and German vessels. Two of them are said to have cargoes of Australian coal.

The Japanese evidently refrained from making any special effort to prevent their passage, and it is not impossible that they calmly permitted the delivery of the contraband goods, calculating that they would prove useful to herself at a later stage of the campaign.

The Vladivostok squadron continues inactive, though it has an ample supply of coal and the ships are in good condition. It has evidently been instructed by the Russian government to remain close to Vladivostok rather than in preference to risking a fight in the open sea. It is declared to be only a question of time before this squadron will receive the attention of the Japanese navy.

RESULT OF AN ENGAGEMENT.

By Associated Press.

London, March 4.—On the strength of a statement made by a missionary of the Shanghai correspondent of the Chronicle sends a doubtful report that 28 Japanese sailors have landed at Tung-Chau, saying that their vessel had sunk as a result of an engagement with a Russian warship, which also went down. No Russians were saved, but two hundred Japanese were rescued by Chinese junks. This action is reported to have occurred between Port Arthur and Miao-Tao Islands.

The Times' correspondent at Tokio says: "Russians recently were conveyed to Possiet Bay from Vladivostok, and crossed the Lumen river southward of Eng-Kwin and Hei-Yong Russian troops, who hitherto have been south of Anju have returned toward the Yalu river. Martial law regulations published at Vladivostok February 9 betray great solicitude with regard to provisions."

RETVIZAN BLOCKS ENTRANCE.

By Associated Press.

London, March 4.—According to the Sebastopol correspondent of the Graphic Admiral Skrydoff has learned privately from Port Arthur that the Russian battleship Retvizan lies in such a position as to block effectually the exit of battleships from the harbor, the passage being practicable for cruisers. A Japanese official, who has charge of Japan's financial and commercial interests in England, declares that his government foresees the possibility of coal being declared a contraband of war, and that it had been collecting large stores of Welsh steam coal for years, so that today it has a supply sufficient for the needs of navy for years to come.

JAPS TRANSPORTING TROOPS

By Associated Press.

Vladivostok, Wednesday March 2, via St. Petersburg.—Delayed in transmission. According to information received here forty Japanese transports escorted by the entire naval fleet, have been energetically landing troops in Korea at Fusan and Chemulpo. It is estimated that fully a hundred thousand men have disembarked and it is supposed an immediate ad-

vance in to northern Korea is contemplated. From the fact that the Japanese fleet is thus employed it is felt no immediate attack upon Vladivostok or Port Arthur will be made. The reported landing of 2,000 Japanese at Song-Chin, Plakain Bay, east coast of Korea, has been confirmed. There is a remarkable rumor abroad that a quantity of transport material, together with ninety tons of salt fish has been discovered laid away in a secret place in the neighborhood of Nikolaiysk. They were apparently intended for the use of the Japanese forces toward the end of the summer.

NURSES FOR JAPAN.

By the Associated Press.

Philadelphia, March 4.—Ten nurses left this city today for Seattle en route to Japan where they will render volunteer services on the battlefield. The party is under the guidance of Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, of this city, who tendered her services, together with those of her company without hope of remuneration.

LEAVE THE SUEZ CANAL.

By the Associated Press.

Port Said, March 4.—Admiral Wirch, commanding the squadron of Russian warships will leave these waters tomorrow afternoon for Cadiz Spain, leaving the torpedo boat destroyers at Algiers. They will remain in the Mediterranean until June, awaiting the arrival of the Baltic squadron.

SEIZED AMERICAN CONSULATE.

By Associated Press.

Seoul, Korea, March 4.—Sixty American marines have been sent to guard the premises of the American minister at Ulsan, 120 miles north of Ping Yang, which was reported February 27 to have been seized by Russian soldiers.

REPORT FROM GEN. PFLUG.

By Associated Press.

St. Petersburg, March 4.—Major General Pflug telegraphed from Port Arthur that all is quiet there and at Yin Kow. He adds "According to information given by eye witnesses a Japanese cruiser having three funnels lies near Chemulpo between the islands, having recently sunk there."

SHOT IN THE TEMPLE

Bank President Worried Over Affairs
of Institution Committed
Suicide.

St. Louis, Mo., March 4.—Frank L. Larnie, president of the Cornish State Savings bank now in the hands of a receiver shot and killed himself this evening.

The savings bank closed its doors February 15 and its affairs were found to be badly tangled. The strain and worry of the weeks preceding the failure had affected Larnie both physically and mentally and he had been confined to the house for ten days or more.

This afternoon he locked himself in the bathroom and shot himself in the temple, death being instantaneous. He had long been one of the leading business men of Cornish.

AMENDS THE BILL.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 4.—Senator Alger today introduced an amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill amending the provision inserted by the house prohibiting rural carriers from engaging in any other business so that the carriers may carry articles not authorized to be accepted for mailing, also to make contracts with publishers to distribute newspapers and periodicals, upon which one rate of postage has been paid.

NO FOREIGN POWER

Will be Permitted to Lay a Cable
to Guam from the Main-
Land.

Washington, March 4.—It is stated on trustworthy authority that neither Japan nor any other foreign power will be allowed to lay a cable to Guam now nor at any future time.

Whenever a cable line is constructed between Guam and the mainland it will be under the authority and jurisdiction of the United States.

SAWMILL BOILER EXPLODES.

By Associated Press.

Towanda, Pa., March 4.—By the explosion of the boiler of a sawmill at Greenwood today, P. L. Brown, the proprietor, and his two helpers Wallace Tice and Robert Compton, were killed. The bodies were terribly mangled.

EXCEEDED CONTRACT SPEED.

By the Associated Press.

Philadelphia, March 4.—At a preliminary trial, in which she attained an average speed of 18.8 knots, the cruiser Denver returned to anchor late today. The contract called for 17 knots.

IN SNOW DRIFTS TRAINS ARE LOST

Two Passenger and One Freight
Missing Two Weeks.

SNOW PLOWS AND MEN

UNABLE TO EXTRICATE THEM
AND ONLY A THAW WILL
SET THEM AT LIB-
ERTY.

By Associated Press.

Lewistown, Mont., March 4.—Some-where between here and Lombard, no-body knows just where, three trains, a freight and two mixed passenger trains have been buried in the snow drifts for two weeks.

For three weeks the railroad has been blocked. Snow plows with big gangs of men have been bucking the drifts night and day, but the snow falls all day.

The missing trains have not been reported in, probably they will not until a thaw sets in. The two mixed trains carried twenty persons. The crew of the freight train managed to reach Harlowtown and procured provisions, and it is believed, the passengers on the other trains have suc-

COMMISSIONERS TO SAIL

For Panama on March 22 as the Re-
sult of Conference Yes-
terday.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 4.—Admiral Walker, chairman of the Isthmian canal commission, had a conference today. At the conclusion of the conference Walker said he had notified the members of the commission to come to Washington at their earliest convenience. He said he expected the commission to sail for the Isthmus on the 22nd inst. Rear Admiral Rixey, surgeon general of the navy, is preparing to go to Panama to make an investigation of the sanitary conditions of the island.

FAVOR UNION OF CHURCHES

By the Associated Press.

Virginia, Illinois, March 4.—The Sangamon Presbytery of the Cumberland Presbyterian church adjourned today, after electing Rev. J. C. Moyer of Petersburg as moderator; Rev. George Turner, Menard county and Rev. Joseph Hicks of Cass county as delegates to the general assembly at Dallas Texas next May. They were instructed to favor the union of the Presbyterian and Cumberland Presbyterian churches.

BANK CLEARINGS.

By Associated Press.

New York, March 4.—The total bank clearings compared by Bradstreet for the past week are \$1,967,687.22, a decrease of 18.2 per cent compared with the corresponding week last year.

THREE PERISHED IN FIERCE FIRE

That Ravaged the Prairies of
Southwest Wednesday Night.
A BIG FINANCIAL LOSS

WHILE SCORES OF PERSONS ARE
SUFFERING WITH TERRI-
BLE BURNS AND BRO-
KEN LIMBS.

By Associated Press.

Oklahoma City, O. T., March 4.—Three persons perished in Wednesday night's prairie fire and the financial loss by fire and gale is estimated at half million dollars.

The dead are W. H. Moyer, Near Lawton, while those overcome by the heat while fighting fire were Dr. Harmon, Lawton; burned to death in his stable. An unknown boy, near Lawton; the body was found on the prairie burned to a crisp.

Further reports of property loss by both fire and wind indicate that the first estimate was too low. The damage by fire extends over seven counties in the south west. Scores of people are suffering from burns and broken limbs. The area from which reports of damage by wind come covers a hundred miles square and

was arrested, charged with the murder of his father Michael Weiske. The prisoner was brought to the jail here. The man was shot twice and clubbed, the body dragged into his home, and the place partly dynamited and the house destroyed, leaving only the trunk of the body.

THE GRIM REAPER.

By Associated Press.

Quincy, Ill., March 4.—Henry Francis Joseph Ricker, president of the Ricker National bank, is dead, aged 82. He was born in Germany and lived in Quincy for 64 years. He was the Democratic nominee for state treasurer in 1884. His estate is valued at two millions.

Springfield, Ill., March 4.—Rev. Robert Clark, a pioneer Methodist Episcopal minister of Illinois, is dead at his home in Waverly, aged 84.

ASK AN APPROPRIATION.

By the Associated Press.

Kansas City, March 4.—A delegation of prominent citizens left here tonight for Washington where they expect to appear Monday next before the house committee on rivers and harbors and make a plea for an appropriation of \$1,500,000 for river improvements to prevent a recurrence of the disastrous floods of last June.

SCALE MAY BE SIGNED

At a General Joint Session This Morn-
ing and a Big Coal Strike
Averted.

By Associated Press.

Indianapolis, March 4.—President Mitchell and F. L. Robbins said this afternoon that a general joint session would be held tomorrow morning to receive the scale committee report. If the terms offered by the operators are accepted or little changed, the scale will be signed tomorrow.

THE MOTHERS OF MEN.

Responsibility That Is Their Heritage
on Earth.

The birthday of Lincoln is approach-
ing its centennial, for he was born
ninety-five years ago of a wonderful
mother, of whom the world knows,
alas, too little.

Nancy Hanks!

I know not what furtive, haunting suggestiveness there is in this name of pliant pride and girlish coquetry. But whatever buoyant song her soul might have sung under happier skies, that gentle soul was all too sensitive to the hard conditions of her environment. She drooped, and the rosy cheeks grew wan, and the great soft eyes were troubled in their depths, and the eager, questioning mind was numbed by the riddle of her life and the burden of its sorrows. If the wind laughed in the sun, it sobbed in the night. If the spirits of the forest whispered hope they sometimes shrieked despair. If the clouds, like water fowl, rested on the bosom of her woodland pools, they also hung the shadows above her brooding heart. And so the moaning of the wind and the shadows of the clouds, and the boding spirits of the earth and sky, and the mystery, and pathos, and tragedy of life passed into her nature and became part of it, and into the nature of Abraham, her son, sole heir to her tenderness, her wistfulness, her destiny.

It has been said that in every great man there is something of the child, and I would add: Yes, and of the woman. Napoleon was not great—he was monstrous. True greatness has in it a depth of tenderness and a well spring of melancholy, through which there may bubble up sometimes an iridescent humor. Lincoln could catch the rainbow colors of a joke even through the prism of his tears. A great man is a religious man. In his soul there is a mystery of love, too vague, thank heaven, to limit by a theology. Lincoln's religion was a creedless Christianity.

His physique, his strength—like the strength of a gorilla—his physical attributes were inherited from his father, but his soul was given him by his mother, who, dowered with no earthly thing, gave all that she had of heaven—her motherhood, herself. "All that I am," said Abraham Lincoln, "I owe to my mother."

Now, Prof. Drummond in that great book of his, called "The Ascent of Man," has taught us the holy sanction of that word—mother. He has revealed to us how all the forces of the universe, through countless ages and millenniums, have conspired and aspired to produce this final, crowning miracle of God—the miracle of motherhood. Mother! Handmaid of God—elect of heaven! Not even to an angel is vouchsafed the care of life new made; you, you only are deemed worthy of the charge! Not cherubim nor seraphim may nurse a human soul; a mother's heart cradles man's first and only innocence!—Henry D. Estabrook.

UNFAVORABLE IMPRESSIONS.

Once upon a time a man, who was traversing the public highway, saw an automobile approaching him, and stood, intending to speak to the driver. He knew him; but when he saw that he was a stranger he started on his way, though not quickly enough to get out of the way of the machine, which struck him, bruising him quite severely. Moral—Strangers sometimes strike us unfavorably.

A SACRED CREED TO THE MORMON

Plural Marriages Originated in a
Divine Revelation.

SMITH ON THE STAND

SHEDS MUCH LIGHT ON INNER
WORKINGS OF CHURCH
WOMEN CANNOT BE-
COME PRIESTS.

Washington, March 4.—President Joseph F. Smith of the Mormon church was called to the stand by Senator Hoar at the opening of today's proceedings before the Senate committee on privileges and elections in the investigation of protests against Senator Reed Smoot of Utah.

This is the third day the head of the Mormon faith has taken the leading role in this remarkable investigation, which is rending the veil of secrecy in regard to polygamous practices. When President Smith took the witness chair Senator Hoar desired information on the subject of the rights of women in the church and whether they hold any priestly authority.

Mr. Smith said the women are regarded as the equal of the men in all matters of voting, but that in holding "priestly authority" women are not regarded on the same plane. He explained that the women have a charitable association known as the Women's Relief society, in which they have authority to perform certain proscribed duties. This authority is confined to the relieving of distress, but women are not ordained high priests, apostles, or elders.

Mr. Taylor asked about M. F. Cowley, one of the apostles and the Cowley talks on doctrine, and in answer to questions by Senator Dabbs Mr. Smith said Mr. Cowley was elected as an apostle in 1897.

Reading from the Deseret News of June 23, 1903, regarding a speech by Mr. Smith at the Weber State reunion. Mr. Taylor asked Mr. Smith if he was correctly reported in saying that the doctrine of plural marriage was a revelation by God to Joseph F. Smith, Jr., and to reject that would be equivalent to a rejection of God himself.

Mr. Smith said he believed he was correctly reported, and when a list of names of those present, including Senator Smoot was read, Mr. Smith said the list was correct. He declared that he would not have had the article published if he had been consulted. Pressed for a reason, he said that he was under injunction not to teach the righteousness of polygamy and that he had refrained from so doing in public.

Senator Beveridge desired to know whether the church considered the laws were being obeyed when polygamous cohabitation had continued since the manifesto of 1890, and chairman Burrows made the question more personal. He said: "You have said today that you were obeying the laws in not teaching polygamy since the manifesto. Do you think you were obeying the law in having 11 children from different mothers since that time?"

"I obey the law so far as teaching is concerned. I have not said that I have obeyed the law in my practice. As I have said before, I preferred to take my chances with the law rather than to abandon my plural family. Polygamy has not been taught in the church by any of the officials. The church has obeyed the laws, even if I have not," said Mr. Smith.

Intense feeling was exhibited by President Smith, in speaking of individuals, who he said had spied on the domestic and marital relations of high officials and for this reason he had favored the passage of the Evans bill to prevent prosecutions for polygamy cohabitation, unless complaints were entered by the husband or wife against the other. This bill was passed, but vetoed by the governor of Utah.

It was brought out that all of Smith's predecessors, as presidents of the Mormon church have been polygamists, and that the man chosen to succeed him had more than one wife. Smith was asked which he would obey, the law of the land or revelations from God, if the two were in conflict. He said he might obey revelations, though it was not compulsory. He added: "I should not like to be put in a position where I would have to desert my children—I could not do that."

TO INVESTIGATE CONDITIONS.

By Associated Press.

Washington, March 4.—The Mayflower with Admiral Dewey, Rear Admiral Taylor, chief of bureau of navigation and several members of the general board of the navy and as assistant secretary of State, Loomis on board, has left Guantanamo for San Domingo where they will make an unofficial investigation of conditions there.



needed in reaching some of the
anchors, where they are being taken
are of.

HE WILL ACCEPT IT

Furthermore, will not Attempt to
Discourage Efforts to Nom-
inate Him.

Washington, March 4.—The Star says "Senator Fairbanks will not resist the movement to make him the vice presidential nominee of the Republican party. If the convention nominates him he will accept. More than that he will not attempt to discourage the efforts looking to his nomination."

THE DATE CHANGED.

By Associated Press.

Springfield, March 4.—The date of the annual meeting of the state Bar association was changed from May 12 to May 25, on account of the meeting of the Republican state convention on original date.

SHE TOO, COULD SHOT.

By the Associated Press.

Marshfield, Wis., March 4.—Geo. Spang was arrested here this evening on the charge of trying to kill his divorced wife. In self defense she shot him when he fired at her, wounding him in the head.

THE WORST IS FEARED.

By Associated Press.

Berlin, March 4.—There is no improvement according to dispatches from Hanover, in the condition of Count Von Waldersee. He is very weak and the worst is feared. Prof. Orth, of Berlin, and Prof. Eppstein, of Goettingen, have diagnosed the disease as intestinal inflammation. The emperor has ordered that full reports be sent him hourly.

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 4.—Senator Proctor from the senate committee on military affairs today reported the army appropriation bill with a number of amendments, making the total increase of \$2,528,481 in appropriation over the amount carried by the bill as it passed the house and bringing the total up to \$77,520,942.

Zulu Bride's Sacrifice.

In Zululand hairdressing is an im-
portant matter with both bride and
bridegroom. A woman's glory may be
her hair, but a Zulu bride has to have
it all shaved off except just what is
required in the formation of the cone-
shaped erection, which, with her peo-
ple, is considered the wife's proper
coiffure.

Proper Distance Between Eyes.

The proper distance between the
eyes is the width of one eye.

the means of communication over the
district are meagre. The difficulty is
increased by the fact that the poles
are burned and wires blown down.
The town of Francis, west of Mangum
was destroyed but no particulars are
given.

MADE A GOOD RECORD

The Asiatic Fleet Complete Annual
Target Practice Good
Scores.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, March 4.—Admiral Evans telegraphs the navy department that the annual record of target practice of the battleships and cruisers of the Asiatic fleet have been completed.

The best single scores made were: In eleven minutes and twenty seconds the best 13-inch gun of the Wisconsin made nine hits; Oregon six, Kentucky 3. Best five-inch gun of the Kentucky made eleven hits in ten minutes.

A DEGENERATE YOUTH

Murders His Father and Dynamites
House to Cover Up His
Crime.

San Clara, Wis., March 4.—Go-
ing the finding of a coroner's jury at
Augusta, Bernard Weiske, aged 18,